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# NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION



JACKSON HOLE ELK — Page Thirteen

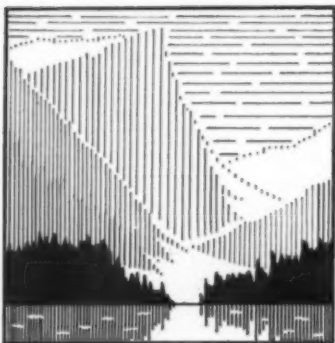
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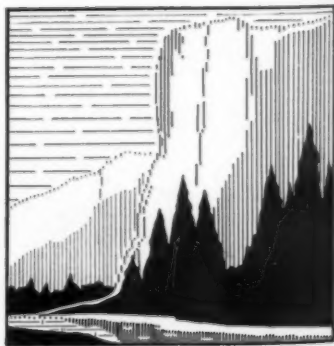
1945

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NUMBER 83



*Maintain these standards and we shall preserve one of the noblest institutions in the world—one that no other nation can rival. Fail to maintain them and the upbuilding of more than half a century will be lost, perhaps within a decade.*—ROBERT STERLING YARD.



# NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

Published by  
The National Parks Association

A voluntary organization guarding America's heritage of scenic wilderness

1214 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

DEVEREUX BUTCHER, Editor

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October-December 1945

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Number 83

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NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, formerly National Parks Bulletin, has been published since 1919 by the National Parks Association. It presents articles of importance and of general interest relating to the national parks and monuments, and is issued quarterly for members of the Association and for others who are interested in the preservation of our national parks and monuments as well as in maintaining national park standards, and in helping to preserve wilderness. (See inside back cover.)

Letters and contributed manuscripts and photographs should be addressed to the Editor, 1214 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. The National Parks Association is not responsible for loss or injury to manuscripts and photographs in transit. All contributions should be accompanied by return postage.

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Putnam and Vail

The Great White Throne in Zion National Primeval Park.—  
"The average American has the impression that the national  
primeval parks have been and always will remain inviolate."

## EDITORIAL

# KNOW THE STANDARDS

IN the early days of national park creation, certain aspects of the national policy governing the establishment and preservation of the parks were generally accepted by the government and the people, and constituted a sort of unwritten law. When the policy was later expressed in written form by non-government conservation organizations, those aspects were found in such statements as: "Areas must be of national importance to warrant their commitment to national care." "Unique geological formations or historic or prehistoric remains . . . shall be regarded as an outdoor museum, the preservation of whose treasures is a sacred trust." "National parks should differ . . . from one another in their physical aspects, and the National Park System should represent a wide range of typical areas of supreme quality." "No industrial use shall be permitted."

How generally accepted was the first of the above provisions is shown by the outstanding quality of the first six areas that were selected for national park status. These six national parks, established over a period of thirty years, began with Yellowstone in 1872, continuing with Sequoia, Yosemite and General Grant (the latter now a part of Kings Canyon National Park) in 1890, Mount Rainier in 1899 and Crater Lake in 1902. For the most part, the next ten parks that were established, ending with Grand Canyon in 1919, were just as outstanding as the first six, with the exception of two or three areas of questionable qualifications. Almost since the beginning of national park building, however, there have been recurrent threats to the integrity of the National Park System. Almost from the beginning, likewise, there has been apparent a tendency to urge the creation of national parks from areas of purely local interest. As a consequence, in 1923

a declaration of policy known as National Park Standards was drafted and printed by the Camp Fire Club of America to serve as a guide for future national park establishment and management.

The average American has the impression that the national parks have been and always will remain inviolate. He has, therefore, no knowledge of any need for upholding a national policy to govern the parks and the System, much less that such a policy exists.

Although it is gratifying that the National Park Service, the federal bureau administering the parks, recognizes the value of this policy, it is true that the greatest good cannot be achieved through it without its acceptance and backing by the people of the nation. It is important, therefore, that more and more people should become familiar with this policy; should know the vital need for strict adherence to all of its provisions, and should stand ready to oppose vigorously every threatened violation.

A sub-committee of your Association's Executive Committee has spent several months in revising the original statement of policy prepared by the Conservation Committee of the Camp Fire Club of America. The result of this subcommittee's work is that the statement of policy is not only strengthened, but is better fitted to meet present conditions.

Appearing under the more appropriate title of National Primeval Park Standards, the document will be found in this issue. It deserves the careful study and active support of interested people everywhere.

NOTICE: Reprints of National Primeval Park Standards are available from the National Parks Association. Single copies may be obtained for ten cents each. Special rates will be quoted on quantity lots.

# AMAZING CRATER—UBEHEBE

BY EDWIN C. ALBERTS

**I**MAGINE a great colorful bowl a half mile across and nearly 800 feet deep. Impress this gargantuan crucible into an immense heap of black sand. Streak the interior of the vessel horizontally with earthy hues of black, red, yellow, saffron and pink. Place the whole assembly in one of the weirdest parts of the southwestern deserts. That is Ubehebe Crater.

One of the outstanding features of California's Death Valley National Monument, the crater is located up where lofty Tin Mountain, home of the elusive desert big-horn sheep, looms above a thick mantle of eroded rock. The name "Ubehebe" was given the crater by the Panamint Indians, and it means "basket buried in the ground."

Thanks to the National Park Service, a road runs to its summit from Monument

Headquarters, a distance of seventy miles.

As you approach Ubehebe through the surrounding volcanic hills, which are similar to scores of such areas throughout the West, you may feel that the crater can provide nothing more than an anti-climax to the weird and wonderful sights that you have already seen in the valley. But whatever preconceived notion you may have of Ubehebe, it is a foregone conclusion that you will find yourself utterly unprepared for the sight that meets your gaze. The great size of the crater, its depth, its color and steep walls make it unforgettable.

You should visit Ubehebe in the afternoon—preferably the late afternoon—when, from the west rim, you can watch the intensification of the coloring on the opposite wall by the setting sun.

Ubehebe Crater is one of the spectacular features of Death Valley National Monument.

National Park Service





As you look at the crater you will begin to speculate upon its origin. Should a geologist be present among the visitors he would tell you that some forty million years ago the entire western part of our continent underwent drastic changes, such as mountain-making and rock-breakage, resulting in the creation of the Rocky and Sierra Nevada mountains. He would discuss the immense quantities of molten rock that came to the surface all over the West as pressure in the depths of the earth was relieved. He would tell you that this period of igneous activity reached its peak sometime before the beginning of the Ice Age, but that lavas, ash and cinders continued to be poured out onto the surface in some localities all through the glacial period. He might tell you, too, that it is even possible that the activity is not entirely over. Undoubtedly he would mention the great economic importance of this phase of geological history, pointing to the important mineral deposits formed from these activities.

After this résumé, the geologist would tell you about the two main types of surface volcanic eruptions. Mentioning the Columbia Plateau of Oregon and Washington as an example of quiet, nonexplosive eruption, he would compare such activity to the violent, explosive eruption of which Ubehebe is a magnificent example. The geologist would then point to the colorful layers in the lower part of the crater walls which indicate that those formations are remnants of early flows, volcanic ash and tuff deposits. He would recall to you the great exposures of rock of this kind to be seen all through the Death Valley country. At Ubehebe, he would say, portions of these formations were violently blown out during an early stage in the development of the crater. This "blow-out" seems to have been caused by tremendous pressure below the earth's surface. Sudden relief of this pressure—perhaps due to faulting, or by an abrupt rupturing of an old fissure—resulted in a violent upward pressure of steam, water and fragmented rock, as well

as of such portions of the earth's crust as happened to lie above the explosive source.

The pit of Ubehebe may have been blasted out in this initial volcanism. Later, irregular gas-charged globules of molten rock, being ejected and hardened, fell about the crater. As these fragments continued to pile up, the geologist would explain, the volcanic cone was developed. What makes Ubehebe Crater unlike others, however, is that not all its bulk is formed of this volcanic debris. To a large extent it is composed of rock that, before the eruption, formed the earth's surface where the crater now stands.

Directing your attention south of the crater, the geologist would tell you that for several miles in that direction there are other volcanic hills or true cinder cones which indicate that the whole area has experienced activity of this sort. In all probability the movements along these faults released subterranean forces that produced the cinder cones and hills of the crater area.

As your gaze returns to the great pit, you will feel that your curiosity has been at least partially satisfied, and that your enjoyment of this landscape is complete.

As you drive away, the thoughts uppermost in your mind will concern the extreme weirdness of the country through which you are travelling. Your interest in Ubehebe Crater may have become so great that you consider the crater, as an example of earth phenomena, is worthy of national preservation alone; yet it is but one of a multitude of startling sights in Death Valley National Monument that are being preserved for ourselves and for future generations.

One of the postwar plans of the National Park Service is to place museum exhibits, trailside markers and other objects throughout the monument to provide a ready means by which visitors can gain some understanding of the features of the area. In this way, visitors no longer need rely upon a chance meeting with a geologist for enlightenment.

# National Primeval Park Standards

## A DECLARATION OF POLICY

### ORIGIN OF THE STANDARDS

Formulated in accordance with the ideas of Stephen T. Mather, first director of the National Park Service, National Primeval Park Standards were originally written by a sub-committee of the Conservation Committee of the Camp Fire Club of America in 1923. The sub-committee was composed of Caspar W. Hodgson, chairman, T. Gilbert Pearson, Robert L. Loughran, Frank R. Oustler and O. K. Davis. At that time the statement was printed under the title of *National Park Standards*. It was endorsed by nearly a hundred organizations interested in the function, use and preservation of the national primeval parks. Among those organizations was the National Parks Association.

In 1944, owing to changing conditions of later years, particularly with regard to the rapidly increasing pre-war travel and improved transportation affecting the national primeval parks, the Executive Committee of the National Parks Association felt that the standards policy should be restudied and if possible clarified and strengthened.

A sub-committee of the Association's Executive Committee was appointed to make such a study and offer recommendations for improvement. This sub-committee was composed of Charles G. Woodbury, chairman, Fred S. Lodge, B. Floyd Flickinger, Curtis L. Newcombe, Edward B. Burling, Francis M. Goodwin, William P. Wharton, and Devereux Butcher, secretary. After consultation with the Executive Committee, the sub-committee presented the result of its study, in the form of a revision, to the Association's Board of Trustees at its annual meeting in May 1945. The revised version, after further amendment, was subsequently approved by the Board, and later was endorsed by numerous conservation organizations throughout the country.

Further constructive suggestions for improving this statement of policy will be welcomed, and should be submitted to the National Parks Association, 1214 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.





Mount Rainier in Mount Rainier National Primeval Park is the nation's finest example of a single-peak glacier system. No commercial use or activity such as logging, mining, grazing or damming of water courses should be permitted on primeval park lands.

Department of Inter

### I. DEFINITION

**N**ATIONAL primeval parks are spacious land areas essentially in their primeval condition and so outstandingly superior in quality and beauty to average examples of their several types as to make imperative their preservation intact and in their entirety for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of all the people for all time.

*In the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the American Republics, the term "national parks" has been defined as denoting areas "established for the protection and preservation of superlative scenery, flora and fauna of national significance which the general public may enjoy and from which it may benefit when placed under public control."*

It follows:

1. That primeval park areas must be of national importance to warrant their commitment to national care.

2. That the area of each primeval park must be a comprehensive unit embracing all territory required for effective administration and for continuing representation of its flora and fauna.

3. That each primeval park area shall be a sanctuary for the scientific study and preservation of all animal and plant life originally within its limits, to the end that all native species shall be preserved as nearly as possible in their aboriginal state.

4. That wilderness features within any primeval park shall be kept unmodified except insofar as the public shall be given reasonable access to outstanding spectacles.

5. That with respect to any unique geological formations or historic or prehistoric remains within its confines, each primeval park shall be regarded as an outdoor museum, the preservation of whose treasures is a sacred trust.

6. The educational and spiritual benefits to be derived from contact with pristine wilderness are of prime importance to all people, and call for the existence and vigilant maintenance of primeval park areas by responsible government agencies.

7. That primeval parks must be kept free from commercial use, and that sanctuary, scientific and inspirational uses must always take precedence over non-conforming recreational uses.

## II. RECOMMENDED POLICY

The areas to be included in the national primeval park group must conform to the standards for such parks herein set forth. Areas that may be added to this group must be units that will fully maintain or increase its supreme scenic magnificence, its scientific and educational superiority, and its character as a unique national institution.

It is desirable that, as a general principle, national primeval parks should differ as widely as possible from one another, and the National Primeval Park System should represent a wide range of typical areas of supreme quality.

To preserve the National Primeval Park System, it must be recognized: (1) that any infraction of standards in any primeval park constitutes an invasion of the system; (2) that the addition to the system, as a national primeval park, of any area below standard lowers the standard of the system. Every proposed use of any primeval park in defiance of national primeval park standards, and the admission to the system of any area falling short of the standards must be resisted. Areas primarily of local interest must not be admitted to the National Primeval Park System.

## III. LEGISLATION

1. Procedure: The first official act toward the creation of a national primeval park is usually the introduction of a bill in Congress. Since the beginning of the system in 1872, according to established precedent, the bill is referred to the Public Lands committees of Senate and House. These committees in turn refer it to the Secretary of the Interior for a report on the standards and availability of the proposed park. The Secretary of the Interior in due course refers the bill to the National Park Service for examination of the area and for a report to him. The Secretary embodies the recommendations of the National Park Service in his report to the Congress which is then in position to take action. Public hearings are often held by the appropriate committees prior to making their reports to the Congress.

2. Recommendations: (1) The examination of an area to determine its suitability as a primeval park should be made at the expense of the federal government and not at the expense of the local community which would benefit by the park's creation.



National Parks Association

**Pronghorn antelope in Yellowstone National Primeval Park. Each primeval park area shall be a sanctuary for the preservation of all animal life originally within its limits, to the end that all native species shall be preserved as nearly as possible in their aboriginal state.**

Committees to consider boundary problems should be strictly advisory to the federal administration to which alone they should be empowered to report. (2) Exact metes and bounds based upon studies made by the National Park Service should be established by Congress in the organic act creating every new park. The federal government should purchase, as soon as practicable, alienated areas within the boundaries of an existing primeval park, and also areas necessary to round out such park. (3) No steps affecting an existing primeval park or concerned with the creation of a new primeval park should be taken without a prior study and approval of the National Park Service which alone possesses the requisite knowledge, tradition and experience united with responsibility to the people. No area offered for the creation of a new primeval park should be considered by Congress until a study has been made of the area by the National Park Service and its recommendations secured. On the recommendation of the National Park Service, park areas should be extended so as to include feeding grounds for the wildlife found therein. (4) Appropriations should be adequate to enable the National Park Service to protect existing parks and their forests against



Union Pacific Rail

The Grand Canyon National Primeval Park, with its ragged escarpments in red and yellow, is the world's outstanding example of erosion by water. Scientific administration must be applied to all phases of park maintenance, and particularly to the preservation of wilderness, wildlife and geological features.

fire, vandalism and other agencies of destruction, and to maintain the system in accordance with national primeval park standards. (5) All existing national primeval parks now up to the standards set forth should remain as created, subject to modification only upon the favorable recommendation of the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the National Park Service, based upon expert investigation.

#### IV. ADMINISTRATION

In administering national primeval parks it is recommended:

1. That each park be administered with the primary objective of conserving its highest scientific and inspirational usefulness to the people of the nation.
2. That no commercial use or activity such as logging, mining, grazing or damming of water courses should be permitted on primeval park lands, by exchange or otherwise.

3. That scientific, educational and inspirational values dictate the major uses of primeval parks.

4. That attracting crowds for the sake of records or profits, and the introduction of non-conforming recreational activities be regarded as violations of the national primeval park standards.

5. That scientific administration be applied to all phases of park maintenance, and particularly to the preservation of wilderness, wildlife and geological features.

6. That a suitable educational program be developed by the National Park Service, using the natural features of the parks as instructional material. The National Park Service should inform the public concerning park purposes and functions, and emphasize the necessity of caring for and protecting irreplaceable objects of natural and scientific interest. No visitor to a primeval park area should leave without having been informed about the special significance of that particular area, as well as of the system as a whole.

7. That roads be developed in each national primeval park only in order to bring the people in touch with its principal features and for the purpose of protecting the park. In every instance they should be constructed and placed so that they will cause the least possible impairment to natural features. Wilderness, sanctuary and research areas should be reached by trail only.

8. That public airplane landing fields, as well as railroad stations, be located outside park boundaries. Flying across national primeval parks, if permitted at all, should be closely regulated.

9. That park buildings be as unobtrusive as possible, harmonizing with their surroundings. They should be erected only where necessary for the protection of the parks and for the comfort of visitors, and at locations where they will least interfere with natural conditions.

10. That concessions be granted only for such business as is necessary for the care and comfort of visitors, and then in definitely localized areas. Such concessions should not interfere with the rights of individuals under park rules to provide for themselves while visiting the parks.

11. That the use of any primeval park interfere as little as possible with the rights of future generations to enjoy nature unmodified.

### NATIONAL MONUMENTS

These standards should apply also to national monuments that are of similar character and purpose as the national primeval parks.

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### WILDERNESS SOCIETY REORGANIZED

Appointment of Dr. Olaus J. Murie as director and Howard Zahniser as executive secretary of the Wilderness Society has been announced by Benton MacKaye, newly elected president, as completion of reorganization arrangements made necessary by the recent death of Robert Sterling Yard, who was both President and permanent secretary. Dr. Murie, Mr. MacKaye explained, will maintain his headquarters in Jackson, Wyoming, while Mr. Zahniser will be in charge at the Society's Washington office at 1840 Mintwood Place, and will edit the Society's magazine *The Living Wilderness*.



# THE 1945 FOREST FIRE SEASON

**D**URING last winter and early spring, precipitation reports and weather forecasts received from the west, and critical fire weather in the east, gave rise to apprehension concerning the 1945 fire season.

Fortunately, however, our fears were not entirely realized and the National Park Service is again able to report an excellent fire record through September 12, the date on which this report was compiled. Up to this time, 291 fires have been reported as starting inside or entering areas of the National Park System. Lightning started 146 of these fires while 145 were caused by man. A total of 3,086 acres burned have been reported, consisting of 801 acres of forest, 221 acres of brush and 2,064 acres of grass land. In all categories, acreage burned is considerably under that reported for each type at this same date last year. Only nine fires exceeded a hundred acres in size within the areas of the National Park System and accounted for 2,383 acres—approximately two-thirds of the total area burned. More than half of this acreage resulted from fires which originated outside Service areas.

The largest fire of the season entered and burned over an area of 1,300 acres of grass in Craters of the Moon National Monument in Idaho. The most serious fire, however, was a 240 acre forest fire in Glacier National Park. Only incomplete reports are available regarding the latter, but as this was one of thirty-eight fires in the park which were started by two dry lightning storms on the same day, thirty of which required action, the Service considers itself fortunate that only one was permitted to reach any appreciable size, particularly as there were fires on adjacent forests at the time, fourteen on the Flathead National Forest alone, on which cooperative assistance was extended.

During the past season the National Park Service, through cooperative arrangements with the U. S. Forest Service, made greater

use of smokejumpers for initial fire control than ever before. Airplanes and smokejumpers were used on seven of the most isolated Glacier fires and on one Yellowstone fire. The value of airplanes and smokejumpers for speedy suppression operations was demonstrated beyond a doubt. It is believed that at least two large and costly fires were prevented through the use of these parachute firemen, in addition to releasing other manpower for service on other fires at a time when manpower was most needed.

The Civilian Public Service (conscientious objectors) deserves much credit for its important part in the fire control program. These men proved to be the best for mop-up work as they were well trained, worked willingly, and for long hours, with the minimum of supervision. The labor during the glacier emergency fell to their lot.

Civilian Public Service camps continued to be available on the Blue Ridge Parkway and Great Smoky Mountains, Glacier, Sequoia and Shenandoah national parks. In addition CPS side camps were available in Mount Rainier and Yellowstone national parks. Although fewer Army personnel were available this year than two years ago, because of the abandonment of the training centers adjacent to some park areas, Army troops with airplane transportation were available at certain key points. The Army was also on call in some cases to conduct airplane patrols over dangerous areas during severe fire weather.

The fire season in the west is drawing toward its close, but September and early October are frequently critical periods in the California areas. The fall fire season in the east is rapidly approaching. Continued alertness and intensive fire prevention activity will be maintained in an effort to sustain the favorable record to date.—John D. Coffman, *Chief Forester*, National Park Service.



# Jackson Hole National Monument and the Elk

By OLAUS J. MURIE

Photographs by the Author

THE "20,000" elk of Jackson Hole have become a tradition in that scenic valley. "When the elk come down" is one of the Jackson Hole seasons keenly anticipated by hunters and awaited by others as a notable event in the year. The ringing music of the elk bugle enlivens the autumn woods at a time when yellow of aspen and scarlet of mountain maple have brought the hills to a breath-taking climax of color. Jackson Hole without its elk is unthinkable. Perhaps nowhere else has a wild herd become so thoroughly integrated with the lives of the people.

But we no longer have the 20,000. The herd has dwindled, and a year or two ago had reached an estimated low of 11,000 or 12,000 elk. We are now trying to hold the line at 15,000.

"What has happened? How come? I thought we had the elk problem settled?" These are the reactions of earnest conservationists—those who have worked hard for this famous herd.

It is a long story, and one that is not easy to present in a short space. The problem is an ecological one, induced by intensification of economic land use. It is not confined to Jackson Hole. It is nation-wide. It is a direct threat to our wildlife in its appropriate environment.

True, we have the National Elk Refuge, and, fortunately, other refuges throughout the country. We have our national forests and national parks, which in many cases furnish summer range and to some extent a limited winter range. But the principle of ecology, as applied to our big game problems, has only in recent years begun to figure prominently in our wildlife management. Even now, it is not accepted generally; yet ecological factors have been working, inexorably, through the years, whether we recognize them or not.

From my window I look out to the hill east of Jackson, on the edge of the elk refuge. There is a grove of aspens that is an object lesson for all who will stop to look at it. Fifteen years ago it seemed to be flourishing, though even at that time it was probably showing wear and tear. Aspen is a highly palatable browse for elk. The animals greedily feed on the twigs in winter, crop off all the young reproduction, gnaw the bark of the old trees, even scrape out some of the leaves from under the snow. In that grove today, there are no young trees. Shoots still come up, but are nipped off year after year. The limbs of the old trees are up out of reach and the trunks are black with the scars of elk bites. Many of the trees are dead, some standing, some lying there as old bleaching logs. Today, as I write, there is a pale green tint coming over this aspen grove; the tender leaves are coming out once more; but the grove is doomed. A few more years—time for the adult trees to complete their life span—and the aspen grove will have vanished.

Recently in Yellowstone National Park, where similar conditions exist, we examined a typical vanishing aspen grove. The trees in the center were dead, but a fringe around the edge was still living. It was assumed that those in the center were the original parent trees, therefore the oldest and the first to die. The younger ones on the perimeter would last a few years longer.

There are other groves that have been entirely killed.

I look out the window to the northward and see the black stumpy willows. Some are dead. Others, however, struggle on, severely browsed each winter, but persistently putting out short new shoots each summer.

In the evergreen forest on the upper slopes there are similar indications. Fir trees, especially young trees, have been



Here the elk are being fed artificially during winter on the National Elk Refuge in Jackson Hole.

trimmed up as far as elk can reach. Even the lodgepole pine has been "high-lined" in some places.

Nature is resilient and the vegetation comes back with every opportunity. Fortunately the grass is not so seriously injured by winter grazing. For many years there has been an annual winter concentration of thousands of elk near the town of Jackson, where hay has been fed to them. Yet the grass growth on some adjacent slopes has held up surprisingly well. Of course, the feeding of hay has replaced some of the destroyed browse. It has also served to give us a false sense of security.

While we have busied ourselves rounding out the boundaries of what we could have for a National Elk Refuge, and while we have concerned ourselves with supplying hay for supplementary feeding, the ecological forces I have referred to have been in operation. The browse forage resources have been slowly disappearing. Some of this is inevitable under modern conditions; probably we will have to make some adjust-

ments in our objectives in this area. But the fact remains that the browse no longer furnishes much winter feed. The long drift fence along the west and south boundaries of the elk refuge to protect the ranchers from depredations by elk has served further to restrict the winter forage resources for these animals. The winter range in Jackson Hole, now available to elk, just can't support as many as formerly. The reduction of the herd to the number that the range can carry is the only logical course. It became necessary, as a management measure, to reduce the size of the elk herd.

There has been opposition to this herd reduction. After decades of conservation efforts, naturally the American people are fearful of progressive dwindling of our wildlife populations. The underlying threat to wildlife preservation today is not yet generally understood. No longer do we have the simple problem of preventing destruction of individual animals. Our problem is to provide a place where animals can live; in the terms of ecology, we

must provide the elk with suitable habitat.

"Well," the answer is, "feed them hay. No trouble about that."

Yes, feed them hay. We have been doing that. We will undoubtedly continue to do so. Hay feeding has been useful as an emergency measure. But let us examine this practice for a moment.

For many years hay was fed to the elk of Jackson Hole as well as to those of the northern Yellowstone. Fortunately, because of conditions existing there, it became possible to discontinue elk feeding in Yellowstone National Park years ago. In Jackson Hole we have not been able to progress as far. It is well known that the elk formerly drifted southward onto the sage plains and foothills for the winter, but no longer do so; and that we are holding the entire herd on what was only a part of the winter range. To avoid feeding of hay entirely we would have to cut the herd to a fraction of what it is even now.

This places us in a dilemma. Artificial feeding of hay is in disrepute in the profession of wildlife management today. It carries with it many evils. It is difficult to keep hay free from foxtail or any one of several other harmful ingredients, and winter losses directly due to hay feeding have sometimes been very heavy, generally averaging ten percent. The concentration of animals that occurs when hay is fed is usually looked upon as unsanitary by veterinarians, and it always results in destruction of browse growth in areas near the feed grounds. Furthermore, it tends to promote an unthrifty herd of animals, with weaknesses that follow domestication.

What, then, should we do about the Jackson Hole elk herd? Go all-out for artificial feeding? Or cut down the herd to a small band that can subsist on what range there is? This requires careful analysis. For a number of years an attempt has been made on the National Elk Refuge to accumulate

This view shows a portion of the Gros Ventre River bottoms on the Jackson Hole National Monument now available to elk.



enough in the sheds to provide for emergency feeding, then to let some of the meadows stand uncut, to be harvested naturally by the elk themselves in winter. Some such approach would be the best we could do under the peculiar conditions that prevail in Jackson Hole, but circumstances have so far prevented full application of such a plan.

I have been asked repeatedly, by persons from all parts of the country: "How does the Jackson Hole National Monument affect the Jackson Hole elk herd? Will it be a help?"

Here again the ardor of pro and con has produced extremes of opinions and confusion. To begin with, it should be understood that much of the broad open valley at the north end of Jackson Hole is unsuitable for elk winter range. It would not permit the development of a huge herd designed to fill that territory on a "bigger and better" scale, even if we could persuade the elk to stay there. But there are important forage resources on the Jackson Hole National Monument that could be vital in our struggle to maintain this famous elk herd.

At the north end of the present National Elk Refuge are the Gros Ventre River bottom lands, with willow, cottonwoods, and other mixed growth, interspersed with occasional grassy meadows. On the south and east are rolling hills with aspen groves. To the north is sage land. This Gros Ventre River district with some adjacent sage lands is excellent potential winter elk range and it lies within the boundaries of the Jackson Hole National Monument. Much of this area is owned by Mr. Rockefeller for eventual inclusion with the monument. As a matter of fact, some of this land is being leased from him by the Fish and Wildlife Service for the use of the elk in conjunction with the elk refuge, and it produces some hay. Were this area to be devoted to strictly private use, it would materially curtail the size of the herd that could be maintained on the refuge. We know from

experience how elk can interfere with ranching operations. The two interests could not exist together along that Gros Ventre River strip without serious conflict. The benefit to the elk of these lands is obvious.

It is known that in primitive times scattered bands of elk used to winter along the Snake River at several points in the upper Jackson Valley, through the center of the monument. However, the Snake River bottoms are now excellent winter moose range and possibly it would be wise not to encourage their use by elk.

But near the Buffalo Fork, at the north end of the valley, is the so-called elk ranch, now owned by Mr. Rockefeller, and destined to be a part of the monument. This ranch, still in operation, is capable of producing a considerable amount of hay. I do not know what wildlife plans will be adopted for this area, but certain possibilities suggest themselves. Since we must be prepared to feed elk when necessary, and assuming that forage resources of the elk ranch could be available for that purpose, it may prove to be wise to let the entire present elk refuge stand unharvested and to let the elk graze the meadows when they come down for winter. Meanwhile, baled hay from the elk ranch could have been brought down to fill the hay sheds on the refuge for the usual emergency use. Furthermore, by judicious use of new feeding grounds farther north on the refuge, better distribution of the animals and more even utilization of the range might be accomplished.

Certainly it is clear that, whatever detailed administrative policies may come into being, the present situation has tremendous possibilities. The suggestions I have outlined above would greatly increase the forage resources for the elk and, in time, might correct the present undesirable elk concentrations in winter. We should at least be able to hold the elk herd at its present numbers. We may find that we can get back our 20,000.

Many of us who have urged that elk numbers be reduced would prefer to have a large herd if adequate range could be provided. In recent years many have complained that in summer, on the recreation areas of Teton National Forest and the southern Yellowstone, elk are not encountered on pack trips as commonly as they used to be. One old-time resident of Jackson Hole went up in the hills several seasons to photograph elk, this being his hobby, but came back disappointed, declaring "the elk are gone." Also, dude ranch parties crossing this area by pack train have been disappointed. Possibly we are beginning to spread our elk a little thin on summer range, but certainly we cannot

maintain more animals than our forage resources permit for the winter season. The sooner we recognize this elementary principle in wildlife management, the sooner will we understand our game problems and apply what remedies it is still possible to apply.

The problem of the Jackson Hole elk herd is not easy to solve. There are perplexities that space does not permit detailing here. But assuredly the first step is to take advantage of any possibility of increasing the winter forage supply, the very key to our game management today. This possibility is definitely present in good measure on the Jackson Hole National Monument.

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## New Attitude Toward Jackson Hole Monument

**W**ILDERNESS enthusiasts will be pleased to learn of a new trend of thinking by some of the opponents of Jackson Hole National Monument. Many individuals and newspapers in the West that have been opposing the establishment of the monument, have lately begun to give serious thought to the controversy that has been raging now for more than two years. On May 26 *The Daily Bulletin* of Blackfoot, Idaho (W. R. Twining, publisher; E. H. Paysen, editor), published an editorial entitled "A Re-examination Is in Order" revealing this new trend of thinking. Here it is in part:

"Civic bodies in most of the intermountain area from Salt Lake City to the north end of Snake River valley have gone on record favoring reversal of the Presidential order creating the Jackson Hole Monument, setting aside some two hundred thousand acres of the famed scenic area into the National Park System.

"The order of the late President Roosevelt, which set aside the area, was the subject of one of the bitterest controversies to arise in

the intermountain region in many years, and since it had political implications, it was picked up and tossed about to an extent all out of proportion to its real significance. The result has been an almost complete confusion of the issues involved.

"This column added its voice, along with most of the editorial columns of the intermountain area, in opposition not only to creation of the monument, but also to the method by which it was set aside. It has always been our hope that we might have the courage to admit we were wrong when subsequent knowledge or deeper thought upon any subject led us to revise our conclusions. It therefore becomes necessary now to admit that a re-examination of this controversy leads us to believe that we were wrong about the advisability of creation of Jackson Hole Monument. We still retain our previous position, however, that the creation of any national monument by Presidential decree is wrong as to method, and opens the way for all sorts of abuses.

"We believe that a re-examination of the whole Jackson Hole Monument question, on the part of those civic organizations and public officials of the Snake River valley and northern Utah which opposed it, is now in



order. We believe that it might be found that we were sticking our nose into something that was none of our business.

"The final test of whether or not the monument should be created rests with the majority opinion of the people living in Jackson Hole. We believe that the world outside Jackson Hole has been misled as to what that opinion is. The great majority of the bally-hoo that has emanated from Jackson Hole has left the impression with the public that all of the residents were rising up as one man, determined that they will protect their homes and firesides, with gunfire if need be, from the encroachments of invading federal officials. A famous national magazine even published a picture of a group of determined ranchers, rifle in scabbard, and with movie actor Wallace Beery in their midst, presumably pre-

pared to stand up for their rights in approved western style.

"The outside world now has the impression that most of the people on 220,000 acres of land have been cruelly dispossessed and disinherited and turned out in the cold without indemnity by an edict which no one favors except officials in the Department of the Interior. Is this the true picture? That is a question which must be answered by those who purport to pass opinions in this controversy, and the answer cannot be found anywhere on this side of Teton Pass.

"Without having minutely examined these questions, no person outside Jackson Hole is qualified to give any rock-bound opinions about creation of the monument, yet the greater part of the expressed opinion has been formed upon hearsay and without proper consideration of all factors involved."

## YOUR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY VISITS ACADIA

**I**t was late on an August afternoon when I arrived. The mountains, standing blue in the clear northern atmosphere, were bathed in sunlight. The outlines and names of those mountains were as familiar as the faces and the names of friends, for in former summers I have hiked their trails.

When you get the feel of the Acadia country, it lays hold upon you. It draws you back, and there is no resisting. What is there about Acadia National Park that makes you want to return to it again and again? Perhaps it is a number of things—the moss- and lichen-grown forests, the scream of gulls and ospreys, the fragrance of spruce and balsam mingled with the scent of ocean wind, the surf-pounded pink granite and the weaving streamers and banks of ocean-born fog. Yes, it is these; but it is a great deal more. One must see the western slopes of the mountains turn orange and pink in the sunset; one must see the moon rise red out of the ocean; hear the songs of veery, hermit thrush and winter wren in the dew-drenched woodlands of an early summer morning; or stand upon a summit in clear moonlight when the world below is lost in fog.

At park headquarters in Bar Harbor I talked with Superintendent Ben Hadley on several occasions, discussing the problems relating to the preservation of the incomparable natural beauty of this little sea coast national park. One day was spent in the field with Ranger Carsten Ahrens. We visited the west side of the park where progress has been made lately in land acquisition. Here several fine features have been given national park protection. Among these are Ship Harbor and Big Heath. The latter is a superb bog of sphagnum. At its widest, this bog measures perhaps a mile in diameter, and it is encircled by an unbroken ring of black spruce. Full of rare and vanishing forms of plant life, the area may be in its primeval condition. It may also be the outstanding example of black spruce and sphagnum bog in the entire National Park System. If, after careful investigation, this should prove to be so, it will deserve the strictest protection; and, being easily injured by the tramping of feet, the area should not be made available to the general public, but should be held for research and scientific study.—Devereux Butcher, *Executive Secretary*.



# THE NATIONAL TRIBUTE GROVE

By DR. JOHN C. MERRIAM

Photographs by Gabriel Moulin

Editor's Note: In honor of all men and women of the armed forces of the United States in World War II, the National Tribute Grove is being established, near Crescent City, California. Collaborating are the California State Park Commission, the Save-the-Redwoods League, The Garden Club of America and many other influential organizations, national and regional. Among the first to point out the great importance of the Mill Creek Redwoods, which form the heart of this grove, was Dr. John C. Merriam, President Emeritus of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, D. C. One of the three founders of the Save-the-Redwoods League (Madison Grant and Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn were the others), he was for twenty-four years its President and is an outstanding member of its Council. He

is a member of the National Committee of Sponsors of the National Tribute Grove.

As 1400 acres of redwood forest in the heart of the grove along Mill Creek are yet to be preserved by purchase, and a fund of \$260,000 is being raised for that purpose, this article by Dr. Merriam is timely. Describing the grove and its value and significance, the article was written as a message to the League. It appears here for the first time for general circulation.

**M**ILL CREEK was included in the original group of major types of redwood forests which the Save-the-Redwoods League desired to see protected for park purposes because it offered a large and exceptionally fine primitive area at the northern end of

Part of the magnificent primeval redwood forest of the National Tribute Grove is seen here bordering the Smith River.





The old Mill Creek road winds among the towering giants of the National Tribute Grove's redwood forest.

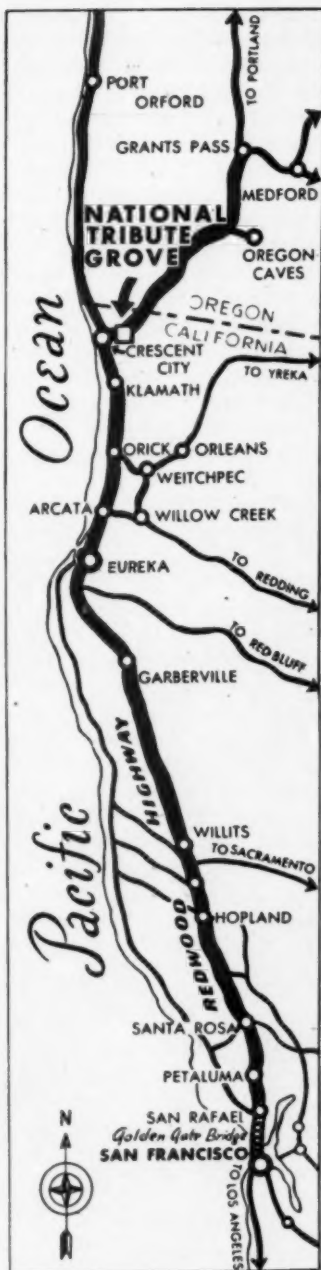
the redwood range and on the eastern or sunny side of the redwood belt. Investigators who made a study of the redwood region with a view to determining which areas are the most interesting and important for park purposes, recognized the Mill Creek area as not only presenting one of the finest stands of timber in completely primitive condition, but were equally impressed by the fact that it illustrated a type of forest quite different from that of the areas to the south. It was the desire of the League to secure typical areas of the various types of forest in order that the future might be assured of some representation of what constitute the most interesting characters of the redwood region as we know it today.

To give a realistic picture of redwoods it is necessary to show a forest, and not just single trees. While bulk and height of a single redwood are impressive, the characteristics of a forest are more striking. This is due not alone to multiplying trees, but to the result of the mass effect of trees visible in all directions from any point at which one may stand. For this reason it is essential that the redwood parks provide opportunity to see the forest in its natural setting, and without limitations set by boundaries of a small tract.

In the same manner it is important to note that a redwood forest does not consist of trees alone. It comprises all of the types of plants that naturally grow with the redwoods. This association includes other kinds of trees such as alders and maples growing along the streams; also great masses of ferns of various types located between the trees or along slopes and banks of the streams. Smaller plants, such as the oxalis that carpets the forest floor, are also an essential part of the picture in some regions. In reality one can not picture a natural redwood forest without these associated plants.

According to the particular region in which the forest is located the associated plants will vary. So we note characteristic differences between Bull Creek and Prairie Creek, or between Prairie Creek and Mill Creek. These differences commonly reflect features of climate, to which the forest responds in its adaptation to the environment in growth through the ages. For showing of these features there must be ample area if proper presentation is to be made.

The characteristics of the Mill Creek area to be embraced within the great National Tribute Grove, are features which not only have much attraction



for the public, but have also real value for all future studies of economic value in redwood forests. It has been suggested by some that the Mill Creek forest developed its present characteristics at a time when the climate was more favorable for growth of a new forest than would be true in that region at the present time. It has been suggested also that these characters have been maintained because development of a forest of large trees in some measure protected the undergrowth. There has been doubt in the minds of some whether such a forest would grow again in this area if present conditions were changed so radically as would be the case if the timber were to be logged off to a large extent.

If the Mill Creek forest were destroyed, and if it could *not* be renewed fully by forest growth, perhaps some future students would mark with care its boundaries as a historic monument, where once stood the magnificent forest known as *The Island in Time*. Perhaps curious visitors would contribute each a small coin to see the place; and trained speakers would tell with emotion the story of those wonders long since passed away.

A feature of the Mill Creek forest which has large appeal to all who see it is its primitive or original nature character. In most parts of the world accessible to man, original forests have disappeared and we find only second or third or later growth, or even woods that have been wholly planted in comparatively recent time. A forest that stands as God made it, without disturbance by man, has interest by reason of its picturing the untouched works of nature. The whole effect in these groves is natural, with all that this implies of development through the ages according to the laws that control in nature. Even beyond that appreciation of nature that seems inherent in our souls, there lies a deeper and more moving love of primitive natural features that express the unmodified effect of creation.

Such a splendid example of the primitive

or original work of nature is the Mill Creek forest as presented in its broader expanses representing unmodified work of the Creator.

In recent discussions of great natural features there has been much use of the word *primeval*, or ancient, in the place of *primitive*, or fundamentally natural. Many things in nature are primeval in the sense of representing ancient time.

Such are certain sandy strata of the Grand Canyon walls, perhaps two hundred million years old, that still bear the delicate prints of feet that moved over them when the surface was loose sand.

Primeval character is less to be expected in living things, and while "the forest primeval" may be "bearded with moss," its antiquity is not of the order of the rocks or of the traces of life which they preserve. But *primeval* applies in a more appropriate way to the redwoods and the giant forests than to other woods. Not only are the individual trees relatively ancient, but the type that they express has maintained itself through long ages to be measured probably to the extent of one hundred or two hundred millions of years. The forest as a whole, as it stands today, is closely similar to forests that spread over the northern hemisphere before the principal mountain chains of western North America were formed, and when the life of the earth was, in the main, widely different from that of today. In that time, great, but stupid dinosaurs were rulers of the living world. There was little to foreshadow the more intelligent animals of our day. Not only do the living redwoods, as a specific type, approach closely the life of that ancient time, but there is much in the group of plants associated with them such as ferns, which also has this primeval aspect.

The American poet Bryant seemed at times impressed by the expression of age in forests and wrote in his poem *The Hunter of the Prairies* the line, "... from dim woods the aged past speaks solemnly." Were it not for the charm of Longfellow's refer-

ence to "the forest primeval" in *Evangeline* one might almost incline to think of the redwoods as the most appropriate representation of the forest primeval.

Some years ago the novelist Conan Doyle wrote a fascinating story called *The Lost World* in which are presented the adventures of scientists who discovered a region where, in an isolated locality, there were said still to exist types of creatures representing the life world of past ages. Safe upon this *island in time*, these creatures continued to live on, while the currents of time and progress streamed around them.

In a more realistic sense, the redwood grove, as typified by the splendid primeval forest of Mill Creek, is an *island in time*, where we may go to be thrilled and to worship in nature as it was and is. This forest shows us, in the living state, one of the grandest works of creation. Furthermore the Mill Creek region comprises one of the most magnificent of all redwood forests. It is important that a considerable part of it be preserved. If it can not be secured as a whole, there should be definite effort to obtain the middle unit—the forest extending along Mill Creek to the Smith River.

People all over the nation are donating funds to help establish this primeval forest as a tribute to loved ones who fought in the war.



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ANIMAL LIFE IN THE YOSEMITE, by Joseph Bird

Grinnell and I. T. Storer; *University of California Press*, Berkeley.

ANIMAL LIFE OF YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, by Vernon Bailey; *C. C. Thomas*, Springfield, Ill.

BIRDS, THE, by Florence Merriam Bailey; *Government Printing Office*, Washington, D. C.

FAUNA SERIES NO. 1, A PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF FAUNAL RELATIONS IN NATIONAL PARKS, by George M. Wright, Joseph S. Dixon and Ben H. Thompson.

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FAUNA SERIES NO. 5, THE WOLVES OF MT. MCKINLEY, by Adolph Murie.

FISHES OF GLACIER NATIONAL PARK; *Government Principal Office*, Washington, D. C.

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IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER RESEARCH REPORT, by James T. Tanner; *National Audubon Society*, New York.

LIVES OF THE HUNTED, 4 volumes, by Ernest Thompson Seton; *Scribners*, New York.

MAMMALS AND BIRDS OF MT. RAINIER NATIONAL PARK, by Walter P. Taylor and William T. Shaw; *Government Printing Office*, Washington, D. C.

NATIONAL PARK FAUNA SERIES 1-5 (see following) —*Government Printing Office*, Washington, D. C.

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WILD ANIMALS I HAVE KNOWN, by Ernest Thompson Seton; *Scribners*, New York.

WILD ANIMALS OF GLACIER NATIONAL PARK, by Vernon Bailey; *Government Printing Office*, Washington, D. C.

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A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS, by Roger T. Peterson, *Houghton Mifflin*, Boston.

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BIRDS OF MASSACHUSETTS AND OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES, 3 volumes, by E. H. Forbush, *Commonwealth of Massachusetts*, Boston.

BIRDS OF THE PACIFIC STATES, by Ralph Hoffman, *Houghton Mifflin*, Boston.

CACTI OF ARIZONA, THE, *University of Arizona Bulletin*, Tucson.

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FIELD BOOK OF AMERICAN TREES AND SHRUBS, by F. Schuyler Mathews, *Putnam*, New York.

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MOSSES WITH A HAND-LENS (3rd edition with hepatics), by A. J. Groul, 1 Vine Street, New Brighton, Staten Island, New York.

## MISCELLANEOUS

A CANYON VOYAGE, (Green and Colorado rivers—2nd Powell Expedition), F. S. Dellenbaugh; *Yale University Press*.

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## CORRECTION

The quotation of Justice Harold Hinman in *Adirondack Forests in Peril* in the July-September 1945 issue should have read:

"Giving to the phrase 'forever kept as wild forest lands' the significance which the term 'wild forest' bears, we must conclude that the idea intended was a health resort and playground with the attributes of a wild forest park as distinguished from other parks so common to our civilization. We must preserve it in its wild nature, its trees, its rocks, its streams. It was to be a great resort for the free use of all the people, but it was made a wild resort in which nature is given free rein. Its uses for health and pleasure must not be inconsistent with its preservation as forest lands in a wild state. It must always retain the character of a wilderness. Hunting, fishing, tramping, mountain climbing, snowshoeing, skiing, or skating find ideal setting in nature's wilderness. It is essentially a quiet and healthful retreat from the turmoils and artificialities of a busy urban life."



## CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE



Olaus J. Murie

Olaus J. Murie (*Jackson Hole National Monument and the Elk*) has lived in Jackson Hole since 1927, and he therefore writes with authority on this subject. He has been with the Fish and Wildlife Service since 1920,

but has just been appointed director of the Wilderness Society. Mr. Murie's chief interest is biology, but he is attracted to writing and to the painting and photographing of wildlife. His activities as museum collector and field naturalist have taken him, in both summer and winter, to Hudson Bay and Labrador, the Aleutian Islands, to central and northern Alaska, and on shorter trips through Canada and the United States. His scientific interests have led him to join most of the ornithological and mammalogical organizations.

Dr. John C. Merriam (*The National Tribute Grove*) was born in Iowa in 1869. He attended Lenox College, Iowa, and the University of Munich. A paleontologist, educator and administrator, he has since been awarded degrees by several other universities. From 1894 to 1920 Dr. Merriam held various positions at the University of California, among them instructor of paleontology and history of geology. He has been associated with scientific organizations in this country and abroad, and he has written numerous papers and books on

paleontology, geology and other scientific subjects. He is a member of the National Parks Association, as well as a member of the Association's Board of Trustees.



Edwin C. Alberts

Edwin C. Alberts (*Amazing Crater-Ubehebe*) has been engaged in National Park Service work over a period of fourteen years, having been first appointed as a temporary ranger at the Petrified Forest National

Monument in 1931, where he served during the summers through 1937. He became permanently associated with the Service in 1938, through appointment as park ranger at Montezuma Castle National Monument in Arizona. From 1939 to 1941 he had the interesting assignment of roving ranger for the Southwestern National Monuments, covering the twenty-six national monuments in Arizona, New Mexico and southern Utah. He was acting park naturalist at Death Valley National Monument during 1942-43, and since July, 1943, has been park naturalist at Carlsbad Caverns National Park, supervising the guide program in these great subterranean chambers. Although born in California, he attended the University of Arizona, majoring in geology. During his school years he travelled widely in the United States. He is married, has two children, and has many hobbies that he states he never has time to attend to properly.

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Never destroy a copy of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE. The largest single element in the endeavor to preserve nature and primitive wilderness is public enlightenment. You can help the cause by passing your copy of the magazine on to a friend, or to a school, hospital or public library, so that its message will spread and benefit the nation.



# THE PARKS AND CONGRESS

79th Congress to October 1, 1945

**H. R. 3865** (Peterson of Florida) To provide for the acquisition by exchange of non-federal property within areas administered by the National Park Service. Introduced July 20. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.—Privately owned lands within the national parks and monuments hinder effective administration and protection of the areas. Such lands constitute one of the most serious problems relating to the parks and monuments, and is in urgent need of being solved at the earliest time.

**H. R. 170** (Cannon of Missouri) To authorize a National Mississippi Parkway. Introduced January 3. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands. Some unfavorable reports have been made on the bill as it is now written.

**S. 535** (Myers) **H. R. 519** (Mundt) To prevent pollution of the waters of the United States and to correct existing water pollution as a vital necessity to public health, economic welfare, healthful recreation, navigation, the support of valuable aquatic life, and as a logical and desirable postwar public-works program. Introduced February 15, and January 3, respectively. Referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce and the House Committee on Rivers and Harbors. Reports have been requested from the War Department and the Public Health Service. No action has been taken by the Committees.—Passage of these bills would prove to be the best antidote for the many undesirable dams now causing conservationists concern in programs for the postwar period.

**H. R. 2856** (Hébert) To provide for better enforcement of the law within the District of Columbia. Introduced April 9. Referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia. Passed House June 25. Passed Senate June 30. Vetoed by the President July 9. Recommitted to the Committee.—Among other things, the bill provides that in connection with the detection and solution of any felony in which Metropolitan and Park police may function jointly, the Metropolitan Police shall control. Since the two police forces today are cooperating adequately, this appears to accomplish nothing.

**H. R. 1112** (O'Connor) To repeal the Act entitled "An Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities," approved June 8, 1906. Introduced January 6. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands. Unfavorably reported upon by the Interior Department.

**H. R. 1507** (Chenoweth) **H. R. 2110** (Barrett) To repeal section 2 of the Act entitled "An Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities," approved June 8, 1906. Introduced January 16 and February 12, respectively. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands. Unfavorably reported upon by the Interior Department.—The repeal of section 2 of the Antiquities Act would remove the power of the President of the United States to establish national monuments by proclamation.

**H. R. 1292** (Peterson of Florida) Providing for payments to the State of Wyoming and for rights-of-way, including stock driveways, over and across federal lands within the exterior boundary of the Jackson Hole National Monument, Wyoming. Introduced January 9. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands. Favorably reported upon by the Interior Department.—This bill will probably be brought up for action after present urgent legislation has been attended to.

**H. R. 2109** (Barrett) To abolish the Jackson Hole National Monument as created by Presidential Proclamation Numbered 2578, dated March 15, 1943, and to restore the lands belonging to the United States within the exterior boundaries of said monument to the same status held immediately prior to the issuance of said proclamation. Introduced February 12. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands. Unfavorably reported upon by the Interior Department.

**S. 555** (Murray) To establish a Missouri Valley Authority. . . . Introduced February 15. Referred to the Committee on Commerce. Rejected by the Committee on Commerce May 8. The bill is now before the Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation.—A companion bill, **H. R. 2203** (Cochran), has received no action by the House Committee on Rivers and Harbors, and probably will not until the fate of **S. 555** is learned. After a study of these bills, the National Parks Association found that the national parks within the Missouri watershed would not be exempt from the proposed Authority, and therefore the Association has proposed two amendments for each bill providing for such exemption. These amendments have been submitted to the chairmen of the several committees that are to hold hearings on the bills. (See *Missouri Valley Authority* in the July-September 1945 issue of this magazine.)

**H. R. 1383** (Rogers of Florida) Providing that certain real property, together with improvements thereon, acquired for military purposes, or for national parks or monuments, shall not be exempt from taxation by the states and their political subdivisions. Introduced January 11. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.

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